

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A fiber processing agent used for processing a surface of a fiber, comprising:

a water-soluble eggshell membrane; and a reactive organic compound having a reactive group,

wherein the reactive organic compound contains one or more of the following components 1) through 4):

component 1: a hydrophilic compound having a polymerizable vinyl group in the molecule,

component 2: a monomer containing any of a hydroxyl group, a carboxylic group, an amino group, a sulfonic group, and a phosphate group,

component 3: a hydrophilic compound having an epoxy group, and

component 4: a compound having an aziridine group.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The fiber processing agent according to claim 1, wherein a content of the water-soluble eggshell membrane relative to the total weight of the fiber processing agent is in the range from 0.1 to 10% by weight; and a content of the reactive organic compound is in the range from 1 to 20% by weight.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): A fiber processed with the fiber processing agent according to claim 1.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A fiber processing agent used for processing a surface of a fiber comprising:

a water-soluble eggshell membrane; and an organic compound having adhesiveness, wherein the organic compound having adhesiveness is a reactive organic compound having a reactive group, and

wherein the reactive organic component contains at least one of the following components 1) through 5):

component 1: a hydrophilic compound having a polymerizable vinyl group in the molecule,

component 2: a monomer containing any of a hydroxyl group, a carboxylic group, an amino group, a sulfonic group, and a phosphate group,

component 3: a hydrophilic compound having an epoxy group,

component 4: a compound having an aziridine group, and

component 5: a compound containing an isocyanate group or a precursor thereof.

Claims 6-7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The fiber processing agent according to claim 5, wherein the organic compound having adhesiveness is a lipophilic compound.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A fiber processed with the fiber processing agent according to claim 5.

Claims 10-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A fiber processed with the fiber processing agent according to claim 3.

Claim 13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The fiber processing agent according to claim 8, wherein the organic compound having adhesiveness is a lipophilic compound, and is a wax or a silicone.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The fiber processing agent according to claim 8, wherein the organic compound having adhesiveness is a high molecular compound containing an ether, acryl, urethane, amide, or ester group.

Claims 16-17 (Canceled).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A fiber processed with the fiber processing agent according to claim 8.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The fiber processing agent according to claim 1, wherein the water-soluble eggshell membrane is prepared by chemical processing.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The fiber processing agent according to claim 5, wherein the water-soluble eggshell membrane is prepared by chemical processing.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the subject matter of Claim 2 therein.

Claim 5 has been amended by incorporating the subject matter of Claims 6 and 7 therein.

Claims 2, 6-7, 10-11, 13 and 16-17 have been canceled.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. With entry thereof, Claims 1, 3-5, 8-9, 12, 14-15 and 18-20 will be pending in the application.